

Remarks

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 16-23 are pending in the subject application. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 17, and 18 and added new claims 24 and 25. Applicants have also amended page 2 of the subject specification to correct an inadvertent typographical error. Entry and consideration of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 16-25 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC §112, first and second paragraphs. Applicants also gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 7, 8, 16 and 19-23 have been allowed and that claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, and 16-23 are free of the prior art in the subject application.

Claims 1, 5, 17, and 18 are objected to because of informalities. The Examiner indicates that the term "of" in claims 1 and 5 should be replaced by the term "by" before the word "feline" and the term "3TC" should be added after the term "analog" in claims 17 and 18. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's careful review of the claims. Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 17, and 18 in accordance with the Examiner's helpful suggestions. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

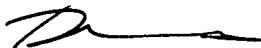
Claims 4 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as indefinite on the grounds that the term "the transplanted cells" lacks antecedent basis. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 4 and 11 to indicate that the bone marrow transplant comprises allogeneic bone marrow. Applicants have also added new claims 24 and 25 which correspond to claim 4 and 11 except that they recite that the bone marrow transplant comprises autologous bone marrow. Applicants respectfully assert that there is antecedent basis for the claim language in amended claims 4 and 11 and new claims 24 and 25. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR §§1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account No. 19-0065.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,



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